

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 943

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to commend Mr. Lawrence "The Man" Hall on 50 years of exemplary service as a favorite on-air personality at radio station WKBL-AM in Tipton County.

WHEREAS, in August of 2004, radio station WKBL-AM in Tipton County will celebrate fifty years of service as a broadcaster of local events, news and weather, local sporting events and live and recorded music, as well as other programs in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, from the beginning of this half-century of broadcasting, Mr. Lawrence "The Man" Hall has been a special part of the station's history, as an on-air personality and the host of numerous live singing and other musical groups; and

WHEREAS, "Man" Hall, as he is known to his listeners, is a "true treasure" and the soul of the station; he has been a constant presence during the ownership by Ken Sparks and Bill and Louise Hoffman, through Bob and Katherine Whiteley, and Royce Wilson, to present owners partners Bob Lakey, Jerol Hopkins, Keith Phelps, and Sammy Beasley who constitute Covington Broadcasting, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hall was known for his unusual laugh on the radio, and he still hosts a fifteen minute Friday morning program, a three hour program on Saturday mornings, and a half hour program on Sunday mornings; and

WHEREAS, a repository of station history, Lawrence Hall likes to recall the early days when the station occupied the upper part of the old Roper Drug Store in Covington, a cavernous space that was quite "scary" at night and especially so one night when he was marooned there during a snowstorm; he was also present during a rare off-air episode for the station when a mowing machine knocked down the station transmission tower; and

WHEREAS, "Man" Hall developed a loyal listenership, and has occasionally heard from fans in Memphis, as well as Missouri and Mississippi; he says that though humbled by his position, he simply enjoys being on the radio; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hall was once told by a listener that "if you knew how many people listen to you, it would scare you to death." At age 80, he has not forgotten those words and still appreciates his profession and his loyal listeners; and

WHEREAS, as station WKBL-AM prepares to celebrate its fifty years of broadcasting, it is fitting that this General Assembly seize this opportunity to specially honor its oldest and most distinguished on-air personality; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Mr. Lawrence "The Man" Hall of WKBL-AM on his half-century of exemplary service as an on-air host and beloved personality and acknowledge the great affection in which he is held by the people of Covington, Tipton County, and beyond.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we offer Mr. Hall our best wishes for every success and much happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.